

Message Text

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SUBJ: JUNE 15 ELECTION AFTERMATH - WHO'S IN CHARGE IN
FLORENCE

1. SUMMARY: 'CORRIERE DELLA SERA' SPONSORED DEBATE ON
'WHO RUNS FLORENCE' BROUGHT TOGETHER LOCAL LEADERS OF PCI,
PSI AND DC PARTIES TO DISCUSS THIS QUESTION IN FRONT OF
OVERFLOW CROWD. PCI ATTEMPTED PROJECT 'STATEMAN'
IMAGE WHILE SOCIALIST STRESSED HIS PARTY'S INDEPENDENCE
IN SEARCHING FOR ANSWERS. DC PUT UP SPIRITED AND BARBED
DEFENSE, AND THREW CHALLENGE AT NEW MAJORITY. PUBLIC
RESPONSE, AS EXPRESSED IN QUESTION PERIOD, INDICATED
EXPECTATION THAT PCI/PSI SHOULD LIVE UP TO FLORENCE'S
PROUD HISTORY AS INTELLECTUAL AND CULTURAL LEADER OF ITALY
AND WORLD. END SUMMARY.

2. PCI MAYOR GABBUZZIANI, PSI REGIONAL PRESIDENT LAGORIO
AND DC REGIONAL SECRETARY BUTTINI HELD PUN EEE PUBLIC
DEBATE OCTOBER 30 ON SUBJECT 'CHI COMMANDA A FIRENZE'
(WHO'S RUNNING FLORENCE). DEBATED SPONSORED BY 'CORRIERE
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DELLA SERA' WHOSE SERIES OF ARTICLES ON NEW POLITICAL

SITUATION IN FLORENCE POINTED UP PROBLEMS FACING PCI IN GIVING LEADERSHIP TO CITY.

3. DEBATE HEAVILY ATTENDED BY CROSS-SECTION OF POPULATION AND PROVIDED PARTICIPANTS OPPORTUNITY TO REHASH POSITIONS. GABBUGGIANI LED OFF STATING THAT NO MAN OR PARTY RULES IN FLORENCE BUT A WIDE RANGE OF CONSTITUTIONAL FORCES WHICH SEEKS ASSISTANCE FROM ALL. POINTING TO 'TEN YEARS OF MISRULE', PCI MAYOR TRIED TO SHOW THAT CHANGE IN ADMINISTRATION HAS ALREADY BROUGHT RESULTS AND DRAMATICALLY DISPLAYED TELEGRAM FROM PRIME MINISTER MORO INDICATING THAT GOVERNMENT HAD APPROVED NEW ROUTE FOR HIGH SPEED TRAIN WHICH HAD BEEN LOCAL ISSUE FOR SOME TIME.

4. SOCIALIST REGIONAL PRESIDENT LAGORIO FOLLOWED WITH ELEGANT SPEECH HIGHLIGHTING ROLE OF SOCIALISTS IN PROVIDING ANSWER TO QUESTION WHO RULES IN FLORENCE. LAGORIO INDICATED THAT ROLE OF SOCIALISTS IN FLORENCE WILL BE DIFFERENT THAN THAT IN BOLOGNA (WHERE THEY HAVE A BACK SEAT IN PCI ADMINISTRATION). HE STATED HISTORICAL MOMENT IN WHICH LEFT CAME TO POWER IN BOLOGNA AND IN FLORENCE DIFFERENT AND NEW SITUATION FACING COUNTRY AFTER JUNE 15 VOTE PROVIDES SOCIALISTS WITH OPPORTUNITIES WHICH THEY INTEND TO USE. HE STATED FLORENCE WAS 'LABORATORY' FOR ITALY IN FINDING ANSWERS TO PROBLEMS FACING COUNTRY.

5. DC REGIONAL SECRETARY BUTTINI, CERTAINLY AT A DISADVANTAGE REPRESENTING, AS HE STATED, THE LOSERS, TOOK SOME PAINS TO REMIND THE AUDIENCE THAT THE VERY SAME SOCIALISTS WHO CRITICIZED PREVIOUS CITY GOVERNMENT WERE AT THE SAME TIME PART OF THE GOVERNMENT THEY WERE CRITICIZING. HE ALSO NOTED THE ROLE OF FLORENCE AS A LEADING CITY, NOT ONLY IN ITALY BUT AS A CENTER OF WORLD ATTENTION AND SPECULATED ON HOW THE NEW MAJORITY WOULD LIVE UP TO THIS RESPONSIBILITY.

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6. IN THE QUESTION PERIOD WHICH FOLLOWED AND WHICH RESEMBLED A SERIES OF SPEECHES, VARIOUS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LAY PARTIES (PLI, PRI) COMPLAINED ABOUT THEIR EXCLUSION FROM THE DEBATE. OTHERS NOT IDENTIFIED WITH PARTIES ASKED FOR SOME ACTION FOR SOME ACTION FROM CITY HALL ON

PROVIDING HOMES FOR THOSE IN NEED, ON ESTABLISHING RAPPORT WITH THE LARGE STUDENT POPULATION OF THE CITY AND ONE MIDDLE-AGED LADY ARGUED LOG EEEE LOG EEE LONG AND FERVENTLY THAT THE SUPPOSED VICTORY ON THE RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY (WHICH FORESEES A LONG TUNNEL FROM THE OUTSKIRTS TO THE CENTER CITY RAIL TERMINAL) WOULD ENDANGER THE HISTORIC CENTER OF THE CITY.

7. COMMENT: DEBATE GAVE MOST SPEAKERS OPPORTUNITY TO AGREE WITH EACH OTHER THAT FLORENCE WAS 'DIFFERENT' - NOT UNDER ONE MAN RULE (SUCH AS NAPLES), HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY LARGE INDUSTRY (TURIN) OR CORRUPTED BY CRIME (PALERMO) AND THEY THEREFORE DEMANDED LEADERSHIP ON EXCEPTIONALLY HIGH PLANE. THS AND OTHER SIGNS OF EXPECTATION OF DIRECTION AND VISON FROM CITY HALL MUST WEIGH HEAVILY ON PCI MAYOR WITH MODEST BACKGROUND WHO HAS ENOUGH PROBLEMS TRYING TO RUN CITY WITHOUT TRYING TO PROJECT IMAGE OF CULTURAL AND HISTORIC LEADERSHIP.
GORDON

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